

OSCE Vienna Roundtable, 12-13 December 2010

Session on Transatlantic Security

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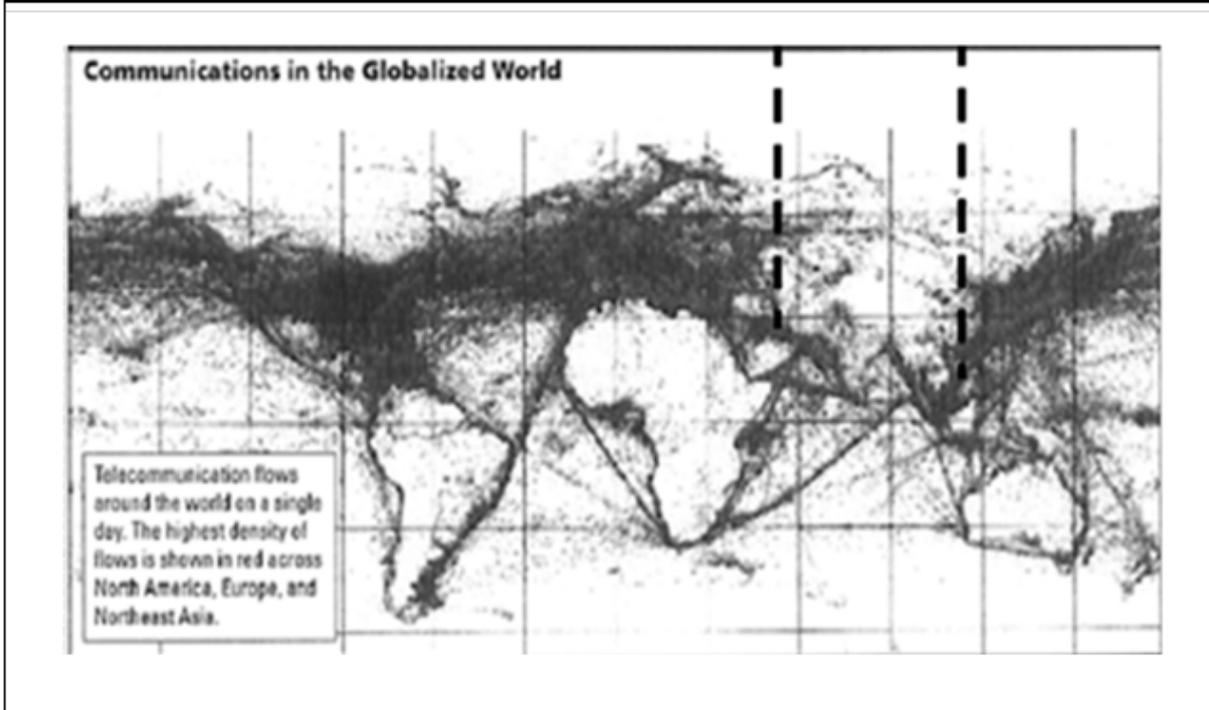
Andrew Kuchins
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Hofburg Congress Centre
Vienna, Austria

http://csis.org/files/publication/100610_key_to_success_in_afghanistan.pdf

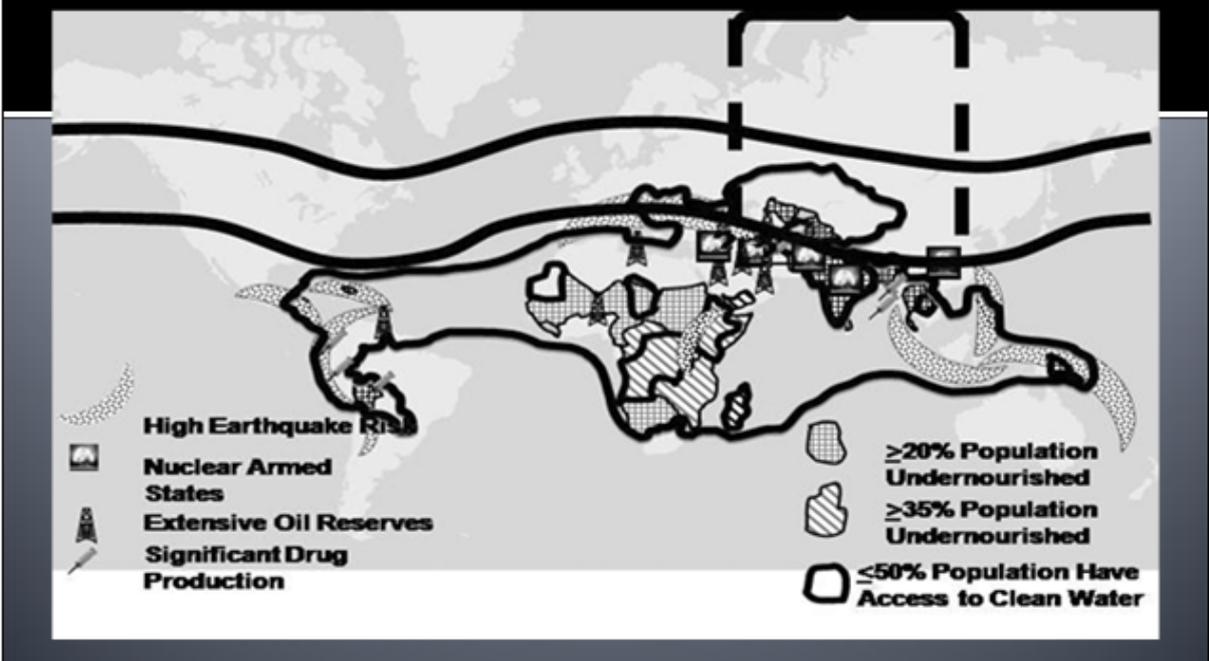
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The Modern Activity Gap (MAG)



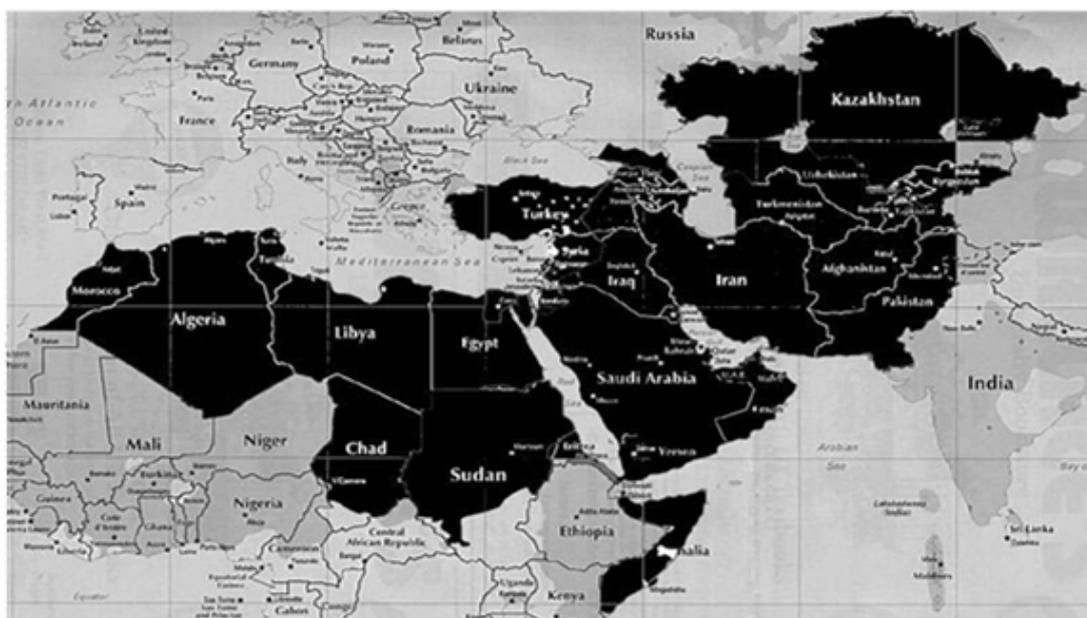
(MAG) + the ARC of Instability (AI) = MAGAI



Factors contributing to Instability in the (AI):

- Al Qaeda and associated movements
- Extremist Sunni Agendas—Reestablishment of the Caliphate
- Radical Shia Islam, sponsored by Iran
- Corrosive effects of the continuing Israel-Palestinian conflict
- Single commodity economies (oil and gas)
- Ungoverned areas
- Increasing youth bulge / unemployment among youths
- Undernourished populations
- Drug trade and non-state, criminal elements
- Lack of democratic institutions/processes
- Lack of education and modern technology
- Border disputes/ uncontrolled borders / frozen conflicts

The Coming Caliphate



Rapidly Changing Strategic Dynamics of Eurasia

- The U.S. perspective on Asia has historically been oriented to the Asia-Pacific zone.
- But, the fundamental change going on today is the convergence of the interests of East and South Asia, the Middle East, Russia and Europe in Central Eurasia, what the famous geographer and geopolitician Sir Halford Mackinder described more than a century ago as the "heartland of Eurasia" and the "geographical pivot of history."



Reconnecting Eurasia—Economic Trade: from vacuum to driver

- Most of the second half of the 20th Century saw a lack of trade among the great powers: *USSR, China, India* which kept Asia divided
- (3) factors of Change:
 1. Chinese Reforms beginning in 1978
 2. Collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991
 3. Indian Reforms in the 1990s

Dramatic Economic Growth & Trade

- According to ADB, trade flows between South Asia and East Asia and the EU trebled between 1997 and 2007.
- From 1990-2006, the IMF reports that inter regional trade for "Emerging Asia" (China, India, Hong Kong, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Phillipines, Thailand, Vietnam) has increased 5xs.
- From 1990-2006, Intra-regional trade of the countries comprising "Emerging Asia" has increased 8.5xs

This does not include Russia, Central Asia, or the Persian Gulf.

Afghanistan as a hub for Intercontinental Trade



Afghanistan National Development Strategy, p. 16